

HIGH SPIRO

September
2017

TUMC

Newsletter for Members & Friends of Towson United Methodist Church



Nourish Your SOUL

Ahhhh! Fall. That wonderful time of year when everything seems fresh and new, while the earth prepares herself for rest and rejuvenation.

What will YOU do this season? To open your heart? Challenge your mind? And, feed your soul?

FOOD for THOUGHT

We are fortunate that Towson United Methodist

Church offers so many welcoming and wonderful opportunities to mingle, explore, discern and begin anew.

Starting this fall, step into one of our adult classes, join an activity in Fellowship Hall, bring your children to a youth group event, become a Safe-Sanctuary approved volunteer, share your singing talents, pray with us in Sunday worship, or hang around at Coffee Hour.

Speaking of which—our “new school” year be-

gins Sunday, September 10th. Most classes, activities, choirs, youth group, childcare and coffee hours begin that morning.

Come into the Parlor for hot tea and yummy refreshments. Grab a bite as you go to class or stay to chat with friends. Savor the goodness that surrounds you.

Not certain what you will try?



Read through this newsletter; and look for the tiny apple symbol to help you identify the classes and activities that launch September 10th.

There is no better time to nourish your soul.



Pastor Mark's Meanderings



Dear Friends,

I had an interesting conversation the other day about why we repeat an Affirmation of Faith and the Lord's Prayer in worship. Good question. Sometimes it seems like when we repeat the same things every Sunday we often do so without thinking about what we are saying. When that happens our worship might feel routine, automatic, and without meaning.

The interesting thing is that in most other areas of our lives, we work hard for things to become automatic. It is said that the difference between a good golfer and

touring professional is that after playing 18 holes, a good player goes into the clubhouse to relax. But a professional golfer, after playing 18 holes, goes to the driving range and hits 500 balls to perfect her swing and then puts in another few hours on the putting green. In athletics, music and in many other endeavors, enthusiasts practice and practice so that, when confronted with an unusual situation, their response is easy, predictable, and automatic.

Might that same be true of our faith? We repeat the Lord's Prayer so when we are confronted by a crisis that needs prayer, we have a prayer memorized to start us. We

repeat Affirmations of Faith in worship so that when we are confronted with a choice that demands we know what we believe, we have an outline in mind. Many other spiritual disciplines guide and mold us the same way.

I am writing these things just days after the demonstrations in Charlottesville, VA during which neo-Nazis, white supremacists and other fascists brutally attacked, injured and killed counter-protestors. If there was ever a time for people of faith to know what we believe in, then it is now.

Every time a person is baptized, confirmed or becomes a member of

Thank YOU!

Dear TUMC,
This [potholder] is a homemade heartfelt thank you from Barbara Conaway, Soup Kitchen Director at Homestead Methodist Church. The people appreciate all the clothing and supplies from Towson United Methodist Church. Thank you, again!



TUMC's Emergency Food Pantry would like to thank all who contributed to our June 2017 Communion/Mission Offering. The total collected was \$7,633.39. This is a generous outpouring of your support and we are very excited to be able to continue doing God's work — helping feed those in need in our local community. All glory, honor, and praise to God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit!

Cathy Anderson Bids TUMC Farewell



* In a lighthearted moment of friendship and FUN photography, former TUMC Communications Director Cathy Anderson takes a selfie with the entire congregation at her farewell celebration on July 30, 2017. * Life-sized 'Cathy the Juggler' * Gluten-Free Party Cake



PRAY WITH US

<http://towsonprays.blogspot.com>

Upper Room devotionals (in regular and large print) available in the lobby

Next High Spire content deadline: September 19, 2017.
Send photos and copy to: kayres@towsonumc.org.

HIGH SPIRE

501 Hampton Lane : Towson, MD 21286

410.823.6511

www.towsonumc.org

Business Hours: Mon-Thurs 10:00 AM-3:00 PM
Sunday Worship Services: 8:15 AM and 10:15 AM

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. LaTrelle Easterling—Resident Bishop

Rev. Dr. Wanda Duckett—District Superintendent,
Baltimore Metropolitan District

Bob Kimmons & Stephanie Kimmons—
TUMC's Church Lay Leaders

Rev. Dr. Mark Johnson— Lead Pastor
410.823.3640 : leadpastor@towsonumc.org

Rev. Margery Schammel—Assistant Pastor
410.823.2485 : mschammel@towsonumc.org

Rev. Doug Hollida— Minister of Music
410.823.6519 : musicdirector@towsonumc.org

Rachel Livingston— Director of Youth and
Young Adult Ministries
410.823.3698 : yandya@towsonumc.org

Kim Ayres— Business and Office Manager
410.823.3693 : kayres@towsonumc.org

Bob Ashby— Custodian

HAMPTON LANE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Erin Rigley— Center Director
410.825.0008 : cdcdirector@towsonumc.org

A ministry of Towson United Methodist Church, Hampton Lane Child Development Center is a licensed childcare center with approved preschool for ages two (2) through pre-kindergarten.

www.hamptonlanecdc.org

Pastor Mark's Meanderings

...a United Methodist Church they are asked "Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?" The candidate answers (hopefully) "I do."

Then they are asked "Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?" The answer, again, is "I do."

Finally, the candidate is asked, "Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?" "I do."

After these three confessions are made, the candidate makes vows and the rest of the ritual of baptism, confirmation, or membership continues. But for a moment, I would like us to dwell on these confessions. We renounce wickedness, reject evil and repent of our sin. We accept God-given freedom and the power to resist evil, injustice and oppression. We confess Jesus, trust his grace and promise to serve him in union with Christ's diverse church. These confessions are the foundation of who we are as Jesus' followers.

At Towson UMC, we broaden the description of who we are as Christ's Church — stating that everyone, regardless of ability, class, race, gender, culture, age,

sexual preference and so on, are welcome to become Christ's church with us and to share with us in being Christ's church for the world.

What that means is: everything about us, from our historic confessions to our most recent welcoming statement, says "NO!" to those who propose to create, in the United States, a society based on hate, bigotry, class, violence, and oppression. As a professional athlete relies on years of practice to see himself through challenging situations, these are the times when we as God's own children must call on the lessons and confessions of our faith.

How shall we say "No!" to hate and bigotry and "Yes!" to peace, grace, and tolerance - and to the magnificent diversity of God's creation? While we, God willing, may never have to confront a fascist demonstration in our community, there are things we can do.

♥ Be Christ's Church of love, grace and mercy. Get to know other church members. Laugh with them and cry with them. Be there for them and let them be there for you. Pray together. Learn with them. Serve with them. Share life together. Let your experience of giving and receiving love transform your pre-conceptions about people who are different.

♥ Demand that our political leaders unequivocally support the

traditional values of our country including decency, generosity, tolerance, inclusion, justice, equality and peace. Remind them in person, through communications and through the ballot box that the ends do not justify the means, the means create the ends.

♥ Finally, understand that the only hope for us as individuals, families, communities and nation is Jesus. That is not to say that we disrespect other religions. Far from it, we participate with everyone in creating just and peaceful communities. Yet we are always focused and prepared to humbly share and serve others in the love and name of Jesus.

I've been with you for six weeks. This is my second *High Spire* letter. Truly, I expected this article to be much more peaceful and pastoral. Yet, I do not feel that anyone is served unless I honestly share my heart, faith, and call with you. I realize I have may have unknowingly stated things in a way that some may find offensive. That certainly is not my plan. If I have offended you, then let's get together, have a cup of coffee, and talk.

Please hold me, my family, our church and our country in prayer — even as I hold you and yours in prayer. See you in worship!

Blessings,

Pastor Mark Johnson



Be Christ's church of love,
grace and mercy. — Mark Johnson



Towson United Methodist Church is a community of Christ-followers growing in love of God and neighbor. This is what we at Towson UMC believe Christian discipleship is, what we are to be, and what Jesus meant when he sent his followers to "make disciples" —

We believe every person is of sacred worth and created in God's image. We commit to Jesus' example of inclusive love, care, and intentional hospitality with persons of every race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, faith story, physical or mental ability, economic status, or political perspective. We respect our diversity of opinion and expressions of faith. Therefore, as God loves us, so let us love and serve in the name of Christ. — adopted by the TUMC Church Council February 2, 2015



Adult Learning

Join us for Sunday Morning Adult Classes. Check out this lineup of possibilities. Everyone is welcome!

ALL CLASSES ARE ON SUNDAYS, 9-10 AM

Christians Under Construction : Room 111
Topical and Bible studies

Young Parents' Class : Room 114
Support to rear children as Christian parents

Tower Class : Room 214
Current topics from a Christian perspective

Women's Class : Room 212
Learning and support to live as Christian women

Adult Bible Study : Room 218
Studies of various books of the Bible

Men's Class : Room 310
Learning and support to live as Christian men

NO ENROLLMENT NECESSARY! MEET IN THE DESIGNATED ROOMS TO JOIN A CLASS.

PROGRAMMING NOTE: The Adult Study Class wishes love and blessings for their former teacher, Ruth Steer, and moves forward with a series of studies on books of the Bible. We will begin with a study of Romans, a six-week study led by Rev. Margery Schammel, Assistant Pastor .



9/17-10/22 2017

SIX-WEEK CLASS



On Answering the Call

God calls each of us many times and in many ways in life. This class will look at Old and New Testament people whom God called to carry out His will. The answers varied — 'Yes', 'No', and 'Maybe'. And, the ways in which the calls were given varied as well. After discussing the Calls of the Week, this group will discuss when and how group members have felt 'called', including each person's responses and the life outcomes. This class may help you be better "tuned in" as you are being called. To register or gain more information about this short-term class, contact Verna Lewis at 410-821.0531 or vernlew8pic@gmail.com.



Infants, Toddlers and KIDZ

Prefer childcare during the worship service? We have your family covered from infancy through age 11!

Safe-sanctuary, approved adults are available on Sunday mornings to spend quality time with your little ones in the Cribbery downstairs and to host a variety of fun, social and educational activities in church classrooms.

Childcare in the Cribbery*

Children: Infants-Age 3

Open: 8:45 AM through the 10:15 AM service

NOTE: Cribbery special hours on 9/3/17

Care is available during 10:15 AM service only.

Pray and Play* : Room 314

Children: Ages 4-6

Open: 10:15 through the entire worship service for learning, crafts, singing, and fun.

Kids in the Disciple Zone (KIDZ)* : Room 310

Children: Ages 7-11

Open: Kids begin in the worship service and leave for learning and fun when dismissed.



Kids' Sunday School



Children of all ages are invited to join a Sunday School class to learn and grow in faith with one another. Classes are taught by TUMC safe-sanctuary, approved adults.

***ALL CLASSES ARE ON SUNDAYS 9-10 AM ***

Preschool* : Room 311 (new location!)

Children: Age 3-not yet in kindergarten

Elementary* : Room 312

Children: Kindergarten-Grade 5

NOTE: Third graders receive Bibles on Oct. 15th and will attend a four-week class, beginning the following Sunday, 9-10 AM, to learn about their new Bibles.

*Enrollment forms are REQUIRED for participation. See Page 6.



Youth Learning & Fellowship

Middle and High School youth are invited to join a Sunday School class to learn and grow in faith with one another. Also, the new Confirmation year begins NOW with a new curriculum and format. See below, and read the next *High Spire*, for more details about this exciting class for 8th Graders and older youth/young adults.

ALL CLASSES ARE ON SUNDAYS, 9-10 AM

Middle School*: Rm 216
Youth: Grades 6-8
High School* : Rm 317
Youth: Grades 9-12

Confirmation 'Class of 2018'
Ages: Grade 8 and older

- 9/10-12/31 Students will meet with the Middle School class (Room 216) until confirmation classes begins 1/7/18.
- 9/17 Confirmand & Parent Orientation Meet after the 10:15 worship service
- 9/29-9/30 Confirmand Lock-In at TUMC Tentative date and venue.
- Monthly trips for Confirmands, TBD

Questions? Contact: Rev. Margery Schammel at 410.823.2485 or Mschammel@towsonumc.org.

Youth Group returns Sunday, September 10, 2017. HOORAY! Students in Grades 6-12 may participate in fun, educational, missionary and fellowship activities* throughout the school year. Bring a friend!



Follow YOUTH GROUP on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/TowsonUMCYouth

We will generally be doing the following schedule each month with dates and times to be announced:

- **1st Friday or Saturday**
Weekend FUN event TBD
- **2nd Sunday**
Discussion/Bible Study, 6-7:30 PM
- **3rd Saturday or Sunday**
Mission TBD
- **4th Sunday**
Game Night, 6:00-7:30 PM
- **5th Sunday**
Usually 6:00-7:30 PM

September Events

- 9/10 Games & Potluck Dinner, 6-7:30 PM**
Kick off a new school year together!
- 9/16 First Fruits Gleaning, day activity, time TBD**
- 9/17 Youth Council Planning Meeting, after 10:15 AM**
worship service. Youth and adults invited.
- 9/24 Group Discussion @ Panera Bread, 6-7:30 PM**
Meet at 2131 York Rd Timonium, MD. Bring dinner money. Share a meal and conversation.

Need more info? Contact Rachel Livingston at 410.823.3698 or yandya@towsonumc.org.

*Enrollment forms are REQUIRED for participation. See Page 6 (next page) for details.

Mark Your Calendar: 2018 Getaways

	ROCK is ON again this winter — January 26-28, 2018 — down the ocean, Hon! Hosted for YOUTH by the United Methodist Baltimore-Washington Conference. Get the scoop here: www.bwcumc.org/rock . Registration details coming soon.
	February 23-25, 2018 : TUMC'S WOMEN'S RETREAT Beat the winter blahs with an inspiring weekend away with your church friends! Contact Margery Schammel at mschammel@towsonumc.org or Sue LaHatte at slahatte@hotmail.com with questions. More information coming soon!
	HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE with Pastors Mark and Sandi Johnson— March 2018 See page 11 of this newsletter for details.

Senior Adult Council Bus Trip 2017

FRIENDLY FARM RESTAURANT LUNCH & BOORDY VINEYARDS TOUR *Wednesday, October 25, 2017*



Travel through the countryside of Northern Baltimore County to Friendly Farm Restaurant for a delicious family style lunch. Offering breathtaking views year-round, the restaurant is located on a two-hundred-acre farm and surrounded by three ponds. Sit, relax, and enjoy the warm friendly service, scenic views, and the great food that has been associated with this family owned restaurant since 1959.

After lunch we travel to Boordy Vineyards, which is nestled among the farmlands of Baltimore County. Enjoy a guided tour of the winery, followed by a tasting of selected Boordy Vineyard wines served with crackers and locally made cheddar cheese. You will also receive a complimentary wine glass to take home.

TRANSPORTATION:

Depart Oak Crest at 10:30 AM and TUMC at 11:00 AM.
Return 5:00 PM at TUMC and 5:30 PM at Oak Crest.

COST:

The price of \$85.00 per person includes:

- Lunch at Friendly Farm Restaurant — broiled jumbo lump crab cake, fried chicken, and family style vegetables
- Boordy Vineyard Tour with wine tasting — wine, crackers, cheddar cheese, and wine glass
- Transportation — all taxes and tips

PAYMENT:

Make checks payable to the "Senior Adult Council". Write your phone number and contact information on the check; and mail to: **Lois Winship, 1 Southerly Court, # 201, Towson, Maryland, 21286.** Questions? Call Lois at 410.825.4013.

Enroll Now

Registration forms are required for all TUMC church activities that involve infants, children and youth — including choir, youth group, cribbery and Sunday School. This is for the safety of all our children!!!

UPDATED FORMS are needed for each family/child every year. Please complete ALL forms and mark all applicable groups.

2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR FORMS NEEDED

- **ALL Children and Youth:** Parent Information Form. Complete one form per family.
- **Infants-Age 3:** Cribbery Registration Form
- **Ages 3-11:** Children's Registration Form
- **Ages 12-18:** Registration Form, Parental Release and Medical Form AND Covenant of Conduct (with youth and guardian signatures required).

STEP #1 Seek Forms Go online and complete digital forms at www.towsonumc.org. Click on "Ministries" then "Towson Youth." OR — get a paper copy from the 3rd floor wall rack or Margery Schammel, Doug Hollida or Rachel Livingston.

STEP #2 Complete & Submit

Be sure to complete and sign ALL necessary forms by 9/10/17 (See 'Forms Needed' above.) Submit online or in person to Margery, Doug or Rachel.

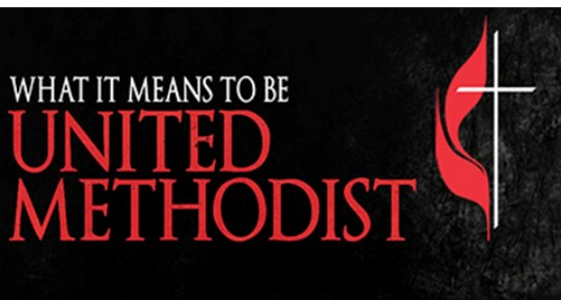
STEP #3 Attend Class and/or Activity

Have FUN!

This FREE online course is designed for new United Methodists and anyone who wants to learn more about what it means to be a United Methodist. The course includes four, one-hour modules that students can access for up to three months after online registration; plus a moderator to answer any questions.

By course completion, students will be able to identify: (1) the structure of the United Methodist Church; (2) the historical roots and beliefs of United Methodists; and, (3) the growth and core principles of Modern Methodism.

Enrollment is FREE and open now at <https://www.umctraining.org/product?catalog=what-it-means-to-be-united-methodist>





Music Notes



VOCAL & HANDBELL CHOIRS BEGIN

- September 6 – Chancel Choir
- September 10 – Joy Singers
- September 10 – Alleluia Singers
- September 12 – Carol Choir
- September 13 – Tower Chimes
- September 17 – Celebration Ringers
- September 19 – Genesis Bells

***ALL REHEARSALS ARE IN THE MUSIC ROOM #321
— 3rd FLOOR NEAR THE MAIN STAIRS***

Fall means many things, including the start of our music program at TUMC. It's time to think about singing and/or ringing your praises to the Lord.

Choirs offer opportunities to become a deeper part of our fellowship, to engage in ministry, and to grow as a disciple. Prayerfully consider where God is calling you this September.

New members are always welcome! In fact, we really need some new members in all the choirs, both singing and ringing. So if you've ever thought about trying choir, now's a great time!



VOCAL CHOIRS



HANDBELL CHOIRS

CHANCEL CHOIR, Adults
Rehearses Wednesday evenings, 7:30-9:00 PM
Music reading is not required.

JOYFUL NOISE, Adults
Rehearses and sings occasionally throughout the year. Come when you can! On the Sundays we sing, we meet at 9:45 AM to learn an easy anthem. Dates are communicated via email. Contact Doug Hollida to be added to the list.

ALLELUIA SINGERS*, Grades 6-12
Rehearses Sunday evenings 5:00-6:00 PM

CAROL CHOIR*, Grades 2-5
Rehearses Tuesday evenings 6:00-6:45 PM

JOY SINGERS*, Age 4-Grade 1
Rehearses Sunday morning during Children and Worship time.

GENESIS BELLS*
For anyone who does or does not read music and has limited (to no) experience playing bells. Rehearses Tuesday evenings, 6:45-7:30 PM

CELEBRATION RINGERS*
For anyone who reads music OR has some ringing experience. Rehearses Sunday afternoons 4:00-5:00 PM.

TOWER CHIMES*—Advanced Ringers
Music reading is required, but ringing experience is not. (Talk with Doug if you are not sure you're ready for this choir yet.) Rehearses Wednesday evenings 6:30-7:30 PM

Please contact Rev. Doug Hollida ASAP to save your spot (especially in a bell choir) this year! 410.823.6519 or TUMCmusicdirector@towsonumc.org.

*Enrollment forms are REQUIRED for all choir participants under the age of 18. See Page 6 for details.



The Staff Parish Relations Committee scheduled a number of opportunities to meet Pastor Mark Johnson. Sign up on the board in the church lobby to meet after worship. Call or write Pastor Mark at the church office. Or, join him in the community at the following offsite locations for "Coffee & Conversations".....

- 9/13 Oak Crest Retirement Home, 1:30 PM
- 9/19 Panera Bread at 2131 York Rd, Timonium, MD 21093, 9:30 AM
- 9/28 Panera Bread at 2131 York Rd, Timonium, MD 21093, 9:30 AM

Say "Cheese"!



On or about Sunday, September 17th, and continuing through October 2017, the congregation is invited to pose for new photos for an updated TUMC Pictorial Directory. At this time, weekly photo sessions will run from 9:00 AM to 10:15 AM and following the 10:15 AM service. (But, read the Sunday bulletin for updates.) Just show up. NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

Any questions? Want to help with this volunteer project? Contact Tom Edel at 410.262.9245 : tcharlesedel@gmail.com.

Where in the World is Pastor Mark?

Pastor Mark and his wife, Pastor Sandi, will be officiating at their granddaughter's wedding in Cheyenne, Wyoming over the Labor Day weekend. They will leave Monday, August 28 and return September 7. While he is out of the office, he will be available by email at leadpastor@towsonumc.org in case of emergency. Rev. Margery Schammel will preach on Sunday, September 3rd. Communion will be served at the 10:15 AM worship service on September 10th.

September Mission/Communion Offering

*September Mission/Communion Offering
(and throughout the month of September)*

PATHWAYS Tutoring Program
Providing Avenues toward Hope
with Academic Youth Services

The mission of PATHWAYS is to provide for the academic and social betterment of youth, with an emphasis on tutoring encouraging, and mentoring.

In its 11th year, our successful one-on-one volunteer tutoring program serves youth from five elementary and middle schools in Baltimore City and County, all located in disadvantaged areas.

To date we have served over 350 students with many returning each year.

SUPPORT

TUMC

There are several ways you can support Towson United Methodist Church.

- ◆ Become a sustaining member.
- ◆ Remember us in your will or purchase a niche in our Columbarium.
- ◆ Place your check or cash in the offering plate during worship.
- ◆ Choose TUMC for direct deposit from your bank account.
- ◆ Visit our website and select 'Donate Online' to schedule credit/EFT contributions.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Coming Soon: March 2018



Pastors Mark and Sandi Johnson will lead a 10-day Holy Land pilgrimage in spring 2018; and all are welcome to attend. The group will journey to many traditional sites of Jesus' ministry including Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jerusalem, Capernaum, the Sea of Galilee and many others. Participants will be able to reaffirm their baptism in the Jordan River and partake in communion in the Garden Tomb.

The estimated cost of this pilgrimage is \$3,500 per person (double occupancy) not including incidentals. If you are interested, please talk with Pastor Mark or attend the upcoming information meeting TBD.

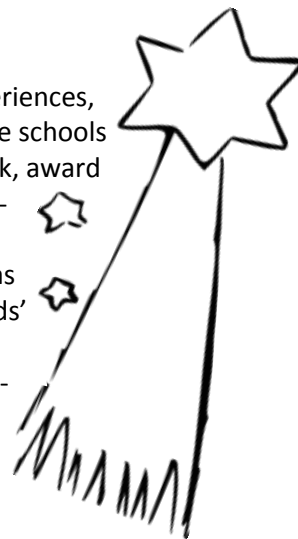


Our main lobby is currently under construction. For safety, please use the rear church entrance Mon-Fri through September; and the front entrance on Sundays.

To broaden the children's experiences, we transport them from their home schools to TUMC, provide a nutritious snack, award them for meeting academic and social goals, bring in career speakers, and provide a holiday celebration as well as a year-end family and friends' dinner.

Our program depends on financial support from our congregation. The tutors' and children's smiles each week are the big reward.

Thank you very much for your kindness and generosity in supporting a program that does make a difference! Please checks payable to: "Towson UMC" and write "PATHWAYS" in the memo spot.





For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them. — Matthew 18:20

**FOOD, FUN &
FELLOWSHIP
for All Seasons**

September 10	Omelette Brunch Made-to-order omelettes, baked goods, drinks. Cost: \$15 ages 10+; \$8 ages 6-9, Free up to age 5. A portion of the cost goes to the Growing Forward Campaign. RSVP by 8/31.
October 8	Harvest Soup & Heyday
November 12	Potluck & Christmas Bazaar
December 10	Chili & Nativity Chalk Talk

Our church is more than just a building on Hampton Lane — it's an assembly of wonderful people! What better way to celebrate the friendships and diversity of our TUMC congregation than to gather together for food, fun and fellowship each month?!

JOIN US!! Mark your calendars to mingle in Fellowship Hall, following the 10:15 AM worship service for each of the dates listed above. Free-will offerings graciously accepted to benefit TUMC.

Need more information? Want your TUMC group to host an event in 2018? Contact Ginny Foster at 410.296.4780 or virginiafoster@comcast.net.

Lost & Found

Church members may pick up any Lost & Found items on Sundays, September 10 and 17. The following week, on September 24, all remaining items will be donated to a worthy cause!

**Giving is not just about making a donation.
It is about making a difference.**

—Kathy Calvin, CEO & President of the United Nations Foundation

Red Cross Blood Drive

**Saturday, September 16th
6:30 AM - Noon in TUMC's Fellowship Hall**

Spread the word about our next community blood drive!

Anyone older than 16 years of age may be eligible to donate. Check the church website for more information. For medical or travel eligibility questions, call the American Red Cross at 1-866-236-3276.

Remember... You must wait 56 days between donations of whole blood. If you are a regular donor, you must have donated before July 22nd to be eligible to donate on September 16th!

For more information or to schedule your life-saving donation call the church office at 410.823.6511 or send a note to TUMCBloodDrive@gmail.com.



Easy Shoe(boxes) to Fill

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through simple, gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's Love through Jesus Christ.



Each year, our TUMC congregation fills stacks of shoeboxes for anxiously-awaiting children. And, this year we are preparing to spread holiday cheer once again. Here's how you can help:

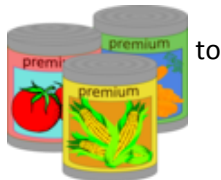
- ★ Pick up your EMPTY shoebox(es) with label, rubber band, envelope, and a list of gift possibilities on Sundays October 22 and November 5.
- ★ Shop the sale bins! Purchase little toys and items. Draw a picture. Write a note. Fill the box. Need gift ideas. Go to www.samaritans-purse.org.
- ★ Deliver your FILLED shoebox to church on Sundays, November 5 and November 12.

Food Pantry News

Want to volunteer to help once a month at our Emergency Food Pantry? Please contact Dwight Kines at 410-828-0792.

The next time our Food Pantry will be open to the public is **Saturday, September 30 from 9:00-10:30 AM**.

In the meantime, we are collecting much-needed items needed to keep our shelves full. Please bring these (and all) donations to church, on Sundays or during office hours. Drop off items in the Sharing Bins located in the kitchenette. Suggested items are:



- * Cereal * Beef Stew * Canned Ravioli
- * Pork and Beans * Green Beans * Canned Chili
- * Chunky Soup 10oz. Soups
- * Spaghetti Sauce (cans/no glass)
- * Spaghetti Noodles

Pass It On: Used Items

Did you know? Our church collects used clothing, shoes and accessories for men, women, and children in need in local communities.

Perhaps you've noticed the collection bin on the parking lot next to the playground? All of these donations go directly to individuals and families of the Homestead UMC community, who truly appreciate us!

Tidy up for fall. Clean out those drawers and closets. If you haven't used it in awhile, then it's time to PASS IT ON! Drop your gently-used CLEAN items in the donation bin. Next delivery to Homestead UMC is this month.



Help Needed! Food Pantry Home Delivery.

The TUMC Food Pantry is seeking someone to deliver food once-per-month to a single woman, living in Parkville. This person is friendly and trying very hard to be independent. Her gait is impaired which makes it somewhat difficult for her to walk. Also, she is on a low sodium diet due to a health requirement. If interested, contact Val Wehrle at 410.812.3932 or valw4321@yahoo.com.



Bible Camp

And We're OFF...

The church building will be **CLOSED** on **Fridays, Sept. 8 and Sept. 15**, for lobby renovations.

Also, the business office is **CLOSED** from **Sept. 7-15** for some much-deserved vacation. ALL bulletin copy for Sunday 9/17 is due by 9/6/17.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday Morning Worship
8:15 AM and 10:15 AM

- Sept 6 Chancel Choir Begins
- Sept 7-15 Church Business Office Closed
- Sept 8 Church Building Closed
- Sept 10 Communion Offering: **PATHWAYS**
Sunday Classes & Activities Begin
Childcare open during worship
Joy Singers & Alleluia Singers Begin
Food, Fun & Fellowship for All Seasons
Omelette Brunch (\$ and RSVP)
Youth Group Games & Potluck Dinner
- Sept 12 Carol Choir Begins
- Sept 13 Tower Chimes Begins
Meet the Pastor @ Oak Crest
- Sept 15 Church Building Closed
- Sept 16 Community Blood Drive
- Sept 16 Youth Group First Fruits Gleaning
- Sept 17 Confirmation 2018 Orientation
Youth Council Planning Meeting
Celebration Ringers Begins
- Sept 19 Genesis Bells Begins
Meet the Pastor @ Panera Bread
- Sept 21 Senior Adults BUS TRIP
- Sept 24 Youth Group Panera Bread Dinner
Lost & Found Items Donated
- Sept 28 Meet the Pastor @ Panera Bread
- Sept 29-30 Confirmation 2018 Orientation
- Sept 30 Emergency Food Pantry
- Oct 8 Food, Fun & Fellowship for All Seasons
Harvest Soup & Heyday FREE!






TOWSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
501 Hampton Lane : Towson, Maryland 21286

410.823.6511 : www.towsonumc.org
Business Hours: Mon-Thurs 10:00 AM—3:00 PM

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 198
LUTHERVILLE, MD

RESIDENT or



SUNDAY MORNINGS AT TUMC

8:15 AM	Traditional Service in the Chapel Communion every Sunday with piano or organ accompaniment.
8:45-10 AM	Coffee Hour in the Parlor
9-10 AM	Educational Classes & Programs
10:15 AM	Worship Service in the Sanctuary Communion on the first Sunday of each month — open to all — with a richly varied service that blends vocal and handbell choirs, praise band, traditional and contemporary song, old-fashioned hymns, and glorious 3,000-pipe organ music.

Yes! Gluten-free bread is available.



Hampton Lane
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
of Towson United Methodist Church

Licensed childcare and pre-school
ages 2 through pre-kindergarten



410.825.0008 www.hamptonlanecdc.org

TUMC Columbarium pictured above:
As you consider final plans for yourself and your family, please remember the Columbarium on the side of our church. Niches are available. Contact Judy Hobbs at 410-337-9013 for costs.

**September
2017**
TUMC